SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SEA TURTLE STRANDING AND SALVAGE NETWORK ATLANTIC AND GULF COASTS OF THE UNITED STATES JANUARY - JUNE 1988

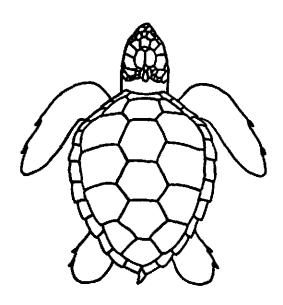
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Coastal Resources Division Contribution Number CRD-87/88-27 This report summarizes marine turtle strandings documented through the efforts of the Sea Turtle Stranding and Salvage Network (STSSN) during the first six months of calendar year 1988. All records received as of 22 July 1988 are included. Additional data for the period January - June 1988 received by the network subsequent to this report will be included in future summaries.

A total of 735 stranded sea turtles were reported during the first six months of 1988. Of these, 724 are wild strandings and 11 are known headstarted turtles. Stranding figures presented throughout this report refer to wild strandings only, unless otherwise indicated. Reports of incidentally captured turtles and live sighting reports received through the network are not included in this summary, as these are not considered to be true strandings. True strandings are defined as turtles which wash ashore dead or alive or are found floating dead or alive (generally in a weakened condition). Thirteen states reported strandings during the six month They are: Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, period. Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia, New Jersey, New York, Massachusetts, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. There were no stranding records received from Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, or Puerto Rico.

Table 1 summarizes reported strandings by state and species over the six month period. This same information is presented graphically in Figure 1. Table 2 summarizes strandings by state and month of occurrence for all species combined. Table is a summary of strandings by species and month occurrence for all states combined. Florida(Atlantic) reported the highest number of strandings during the six month period accounting for 44.5% of the total. Texas reported the The third second highest frequency of strandings at 17.0%. highest frequency of strandings was reported by Florida (Gulf) with 14.5% of the total. Tables 4-17 summarize stranding records on a more detailed state by state basis. Each set of state tables presents strandings by species and month of occurrence and then by month and county of occurrence for all Table 18 summarizes strandings of species combined. headstarted turtles reported through the STSSN.

Regionally, 61% of the strandings were reported from the southeast U.S. Atlantic (Fl-Atlantic through NC), 34% from the

Gulf of Mexico (TX through Fl rida-Gulf), and 5% from the northeast U.S. Atlantic (VA thr ugh ME). Less than 1% of all strandings were reported from the U.S. Caribbean.

Loggerheads were the most frequently stranded species accounting for 68.8% of all reports. Green turtles were the second most frequently stranded species, comprising 15.6% of all reports. Eighty-nine percent (89.0%) of all green turtle strandings were recorded in Florida (72% Florida-Atlantic, 17% Florida-Gulf). Kemp's ridleys made up 7.3% of all reported strandings, 64% were reported from the Gulf of Mexico, 32% from the southeast U.S., and 4% from the northeast U.S. Leatherback strandings comprised 2.8% of all reports, hawksbill strandings made up 1.7% of all reports, and unidentified turtles accounted for 3.9% of the total.

The STSSN acknowledges the efforts of all network participants who assisted in the documentation and compilation of marine turtle strandings during this period.

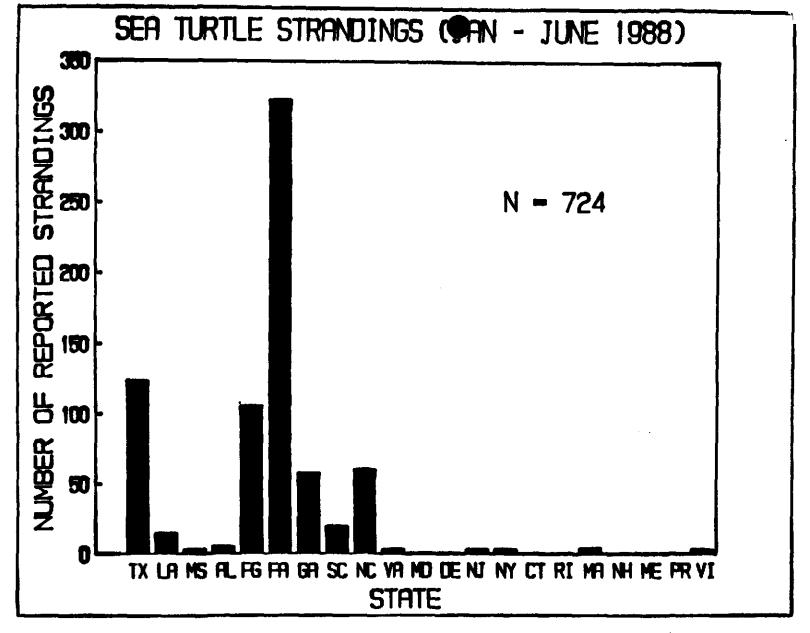


Figure 1. Marine turtle strandings reported from the U.S. Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico, 1 January - 30 June 1988. Numbers represent true strandings of wild turtles only, data received as of 22 June 1988. FG=Florida-Gulf, FA=Florida-Atlantic.

Table 1. Marine turtle strandings reported from 1 January - 30 June 1988 by state and species of occurrence. All months are combined. Only states which reported strandings are included.

STATE	EPECIES*									
	22	C Y	<u>DC</u>	EI	LK	<u>un</u>	TOTAL			
Texas	81	7	3	. 3	25	4	123			
Louisiana	3	1	0	0	5	5	14			
Mississippi	2	0	0	0	1	0	3			
Alabama	4	0	1	0	0	0	5			
Florida (Gulf)	78	19	1	1	. 3	3	105			
Florida (Atlantic)	208	81	7	6	6	14	322			
Georgia	48	1	1	0	7	0	57			
South Carolina	14	0	1	1	2	1	19			
North Carolina	54	3	0	0	2	1	60			
Virginia	3	0	0	0	0	0	3			
New Jersey	0	0	3	0	0	0	3			
New Y rk	1	0	0	0	2	0	3			
Massachusetts	2	0	2	0	0	•	4			
U.S. Virgin Islands	. 0	1	1	1	0	0	3			
TOTAL	498	113	20	12	53	28	724			

^{*}CC = C.caretta, CM = C.mydas, DC = D.coriacea, EI = E.imbricata, IK = L.kempi, UN = Unidentified

able 2. Marine turtle strandings reported from 1 January - 30 June 1988 by state and month of occurrence. All species are combined.

TATE

	JAN	PEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	TOTAL
exas	3	5	16	53	38	8	123
ouisiana	3	1	3	1	6	0	14
ississippi	0	0	0	1	0	2	3
labama	0	0	0	1	O	4	5
lorida (Gulf)	3	5	19	25	41	12	105
lorida (Atl)	35	39	72	49	85	42	322
ie O ria	0	0	0	5	28	24	57
South Carolina	0	0	0	2	15	2	19
Forth Carolina	4	0	2	4	30	20	60
/irginia	0	0	1	1	0	1	3
lew Jersey	0	0	0	0	2	1	3
iew Y rk	3	0	0	0	0	0	3
lassachusetts	2	0	0	0	0	2	4
irgin Islands	0	0	2	1	0	0	3
TOTAL	53	50	115	143	245	118	724

able 3. Marine turtle strandings reported from 1 January - 30 June 1988 by species and month of occurrence. All states are combined.

TATE				HONTH			-
	Jan	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	TOTAL
:. caretta	33	25	65	108	173	94	498
. mydas	10	17	30	16	34	6	113
D. coriacea	2	3	4	1	6	4	20
E. imbricata	0	1	2	2	4	3	12
L. kempi	3	3	11	12	17	7	53
Unidentified	5	1	3	4	11	4	28
TOTAL	53	50	115	143	245	118	724

Table 4(a). Marine turtle strandings reported from TEXAS, 1 January - 30 June 1988 by species and month of occurrence.

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MONTH									
JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	TOTAL			
3	2	13	38	22	3	81			
0	0	1	3	1	2	7			
0	0	0	1	2	0	3			
0	O	0	0	1	2	3			
0	3	1	9	12	0	25			
0	0	1	2	0	1	4			
3	5	16	53	38	8	123			
	3 0 0 0	3 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	3 2 13 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 3 1 0 0 1	3 2 13 38 0 0 1 3 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 3 1 9 0 0 1 2	JAN FEB MAR AFR MAY 3 2 13 38 22 0 0 1 3 1 0 0 0 1 2 0 0 0 1 2 0 0 0 1 2 0 3 1 9 12 0 0 1 2 0	JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUN 3 2 13 38 22 3 0 0 1 3 1 2 0 0 0 1 2 0 0 0 0 0 1 2 0 3 1 9 12 0 0 0 1 2 0 1			

Table 4(b). Marine turtle strandings reported from TEXAS, 1 January - 30 June 1988 by county and month of occurrence. All species are combined. Only counties from Which strandings were reported are included.

COUNTY				MONTH			
	<u>jan</u>	<u>Feb</u>	MAR	APR	MAY	אטע	<u>TOTAL</u>
Jefferson	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
Galveston	0	0	0	2	1	0	3
Brazoria	0	0	0	1	2	0	3
Matagorda	1	1	4	6	2	0	14
Calhoun	1	Ō	1	3	5	1	11
Nueces	0	2	3	18	14	4	41
Kleberg	Ō	ì	4	9	10	1	25
Kenedy	Ö	ō	3	7	2	2	14
Willacy	i	Ö	0	2	1	0	· 4
Camer n	0	1	1	3	1	0	6
TOTAL	3	5	16	53	38	8	123

Table 5(a). Marine turtle strandings reported from LOUISIANA, 1 January - 30 June 1988 by species and month of courrence.

SPECIES		•					
	Jan	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	TOTAL
C. caretta	1	0	1	0	1	0	3
C. Tydas	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
D. coriacea	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
E. imbricata	0	0	0	O O	0	0	0
L. kempi	0	0	2	1	2	0	5
Unidentified	2	0	0	0	3	0	5
TOTAL	3	1	3	1	6	0	14

and the first of the state of the

Table 5(b). Marine turtle strandings reported from LOUISIANA, 1 January - 30 June 1988 by parish and month of occurrence. All species are combined. Only parishes from which strandings were reported are included.

PARISH	MONTH .									
	<u>JAN</u>	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	אטנ	TOTAL			
St. Bernard	0	0	0	0	1	0	1			
Terrebonne	1	1	3	0	3	0	8			
Iberia	2	Ō	0	1	1	0	4			
Cameron	Ō	Ō	Ö	0	1	0	1			
TOTAL	3	ı	3	1	6	0	14			

Table 6(a). Marine turtle strandings reported from MISSISSIPPI,

1 January - 30 June 1988 by species and month of
ocurrence.

SPECIES	MONTH									
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAX	TUR	TOTAL			
C. Garetta	0	0	0	1	0	1	2			
C. Tydas	0	0	0	0	0	0	· O			
D. Coriaces	0	• •	0	0	0	Ð	D			
. imbricata	0	0	0	0	0 '	0	0			
L. kembi	0	0	0	0	0	1	1			
Unidentified	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
POTAL	0	0	0	1	0	2	3			

Table 6(b). Marine turtle strandings reported from MISSISSIPPI, 1 January - 30 June 1988 by county and month of occurrence. All species are combined. Only counties from which strandings were reported are included.

COUNTY		MONTH									
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	TOTAL				
Tackson	0	0	0	1	0	1	2				
lanc ck	0	0	0	0	0	1	1				
NOTAL	0	0	0	1	0	2	3				

Table 7(a). Marine turtle strandings reported from ALABAMA, 1 January - 30 June 1988 by species and month of occurrence.

SPECIES	MONWH								
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	TOTAL		
C. caretta C. mydas	0	0	0	1	0	3	4		
D. coriacea	Õ	Ŏ	Ö	0	Ō	1	ĭ		
E. imbricata L. kempi	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Unidentified	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
TOTAL	0	0	0	1	0	4	5		

Table 7(b). Marine turtle strandings reported from ALABAMA, 1 January - 30 June 1988 by county and month of occurrence. All species are combined. Only counties from which strandings were reported are included.

COUNTY	MONTH								
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	TOTAL		
Baldwin	0	0	0	0	0	1	1		
Mobile	0	0	0	1	0	3	4		
TOTAL	0	0	0	1	0	4	5		

Table 8(a). Marine turtle strandings reported from FLORIDA(GULF), 1 January - 30 June 1988 by species and month of occurrence.

SPECIES	MONTH								
	<u>jan</u>	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	<u>TOTA</u> L		
C. caretta	1	1	7	23	35	11	78		
C. mydas	0	4	9	2	3	1	19		
D. coriacea	0	0	1	0	0	0	1		
E. imbricata	0	0	0	. 0	1	0	1		
L. kempi	0	0	1	0	2	0	3		
Unidentified	2	0	1	0	0	0	3		
TOTAL	3	5	19	25	41	12	105		

Table 8(b). Marine turtle strandings reported from FLORIDA(GULF), 1 January - 30 June 1988 by county and month of occurrence. All species are combined. Only counties from which strandings were reported are included.

COUNTY	<u>MONTH</u>								
	<u>Jan</u>	<u>FEB</u>	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	TOTAL		
Monroe	1	3	4	2	2	1	13		
Collier	1	0	0	2	3	0	6		
Lee	1	1	4	2	7	1	16		
Charlotte	0	0	2	1	1	0	4		
Sarasota	0	0	1	5	8	0	14		
Manatee	0	0	0	7	2	2	11		
Pinellas	. 0	1	6	6	12	1	26		
Franklin	0	0	0	0	1	2	3		
Gulf	0	0	1	0	1	1	3		
Bay	0	0	0	0	1	4	5		
Okaloosa	0	0	1	0	0	0	1		
Escambia	0	0	0	0	1	0	1		
Hillsborough	0	0	0	0	2	0	2		
TOTAL	3	5	19	25	41	12	105		

Table 9(a). Marine turtle strandings reported from FLORIDA (ATLANTIC), 1 January - 30 June 1988 by species and month of occurrence.

<u>species</u>	MONTH							
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	TOTAL	
C. caretta	22	22	43	35	49	37	208	
C. mydas	10	12	20	10	27	2	81	
D. coriacea	1	3	2	0	1	0	. 7	
E. imbricata	0	1	1	2	1	1	· 6	
L. kempi	1	0	5	0	0	0	6	
Unidentified	1	1	1	2	7	2	14	
TOTAL	35	39	72	49	85	42	322	

Table 9(b). Marine turtle strandings reported from FLORIDA(ATLANTIC), 1 January - 30 June 1988 by county and month of occurrence. All species are combined. Only counties from which strandings were reported are included.

COUNTY	MONTH								
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	TOTAL		
Nassau	0	0	0	3	11	4	18		
Duval	0	2	0	9	3	8	22		
St. John's	6	1	2	6	1	10	26		
Plagler	3	0	5	4	1	1	14		
Volusia	3	3	12	5	7	5	35		
Brevard	7	4	18	8	11	- 5	5 3		
Indian River	Ó	Ö	2	0	5	1	8		
St. Lucie	2	18	19	5	30	0	74		
Martin	5	8	3	3	7	0	26		
Palm Beach	5	3	4	2	4	3	21		
Broward .	2	Õ	3	2	3	2	12		
Dade	2	Ō	2	2	1	3	10		
Monroe	Ō	Ö	2	0	1	0	3		
TOTAL	35	39	72	49	85	42	322		

Table 10(a). Marine turtl strandings reported from GEORGIA, 1 January - 30 June 1988 by species and month of occurrence.

SPECIES	MONTH -								
	<u>JAN</u>	FEB	MAR	<u>APR</u>	MAY	אַטע	TOTAL		
C. caretta	0	0	o	4	27	17	48		
C. mydas	0	0	0	0	1	0	. 1		
D. coriacea	0	0	0	0	0	1	1		
E. imbricata	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
L. kempi	0	0	0	1	0	6	7		
Unidentified	0.	0	0	0	0	0	0		
TOTAL	0	0	0	5	28	24	57		

Table 10(b). Marine turtle strandings reported from GEORGIA, 1 January - 30 June 1988 by county and month of occurrence. All species are combined. Only counties from which strandings were reported are included.

COUNTY	MONTH								
	<u>Jan</u>	<u>FEB</u>	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	TOTAL		
Chatham	0	0	0	1	5	7	13		
McIntosh	O	0	0	0	0	2	2		
Glynn	0	0	0	0	15	12	27		
Camden	0	0	0	4	8	3	15		
TOTAL	0	O	0	5	28	24	57		

Table 11(a). Marine turtle strandings reported from SOUTH CAROLINA, January 1 - 30 June 1988 by species and month of occurrence.

SPECIES	MONTH								
	<u>Jan</u>	FEB	MAR	APR	MAX	<u>JUN</u>	TOTAL		
C. caretta	0	0	0	1	12	1	14		
C. mydas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
D. coriacea	0	0	0	0	1	0	1		
E. imbricata	0	0	0	0	1	0	1		
L. kempi	0	0	0	1	1	0	2		
Unidentifi d	0	0	0	0	0	1	1		
TOTAL	0	0	0	2	15	2	19		

Table 11(b). Marine turtle strandings reported from SOUTH CAROLINA, 1
January - 30 June 1988 by county and month of occurrence.
All species are combined. Only counties from which
strandings were reported are included.

COUNTY	MONTH								
	<u>jan</u>	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	<u> אינור</u>	TOTAL		
Horry	0	0	0	1	8	0	9		
Georgetown	0	0	0	0	1	0	1		
Charleston	Ö	0	0	0	6	1	7		
Beaufort	Ō	Ō	Ö	1	0	1	2		
TOTAL	0	0	0	2	15	2	19		

Table 12(a). Marine turtle strandings reported from NORTH CAROLINA,

1 January - 30 June 1988 by species and month of
occurrence.

SPECIES	MONTH							
	JAN	<u>FEB</u>	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	TOTAL	
C. caretta	4	0	0	4	27	19	54	
C. mydas	0	0	0	0	2	1	3	
D. coriacea	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
E. imbricata	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
L. kempi	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	
Unidentified	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	
TOTAL	4	0	2	4	30	20	60	

Table 12(b). Marine turtle strandings reported from NORTH CAROLINA, 1 January - 30 June 1988 by county and month of occurrence. All species are combined. Only counties from which strandings were reported are included.

COUNTY	MONTH								
	<u>jan</u>	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	<u>TOTAL</u>		
Dare	2	0	0	0	6	1	9		
Hyde	0	0	0	1	0	0	1		
Carteret	1	0	2	0	7	12	22		
Onslow	0	0	0	0	2	0	2		
Pender	0	0	0	0	0	1	1		
New Hanover	0	0	0	0	1	1	2		
Brunswick	1	0	0	3	14	2	20		
Beaufort	0	0	0	0	0	2,	2		
Pamlico	0	0	0	0	0	1	1		
TOTAL	4	0	2	4	30	20	60		

Table 13(a). Marine turtle strandings reported from VIRGINIA, 1 January - 30 June 1988 by species and month of occurrence.

<u>SPECIES</u>	MONTH .								
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	. MAY	JUN	TOTAL		
C. caretta	0	0	1	1	0	1	. 3		
C. mydas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
D. coriacea	0	0	0	0	0	0	· 0		
E. imbricata	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
L. kempi	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Unidentified	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
TOTAL	0	0	1	1	0	1	3		

Table 13(b). Marine turtle strandings reported from VIRGINIA, 1 January - 30 June 1988 by county and month of occurrence. All species are combined. Only counties from which strandings were reported are included.

COUNTY	MONTH								
	<u>Jan</u>	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	TOTAL		
Mathews York	0	0	0	0	0	1	1		
Hampton	0	0	1	0	0	0	1		
TOTAL	. O	0	. 1	1	0	1	3		

Table 14(a). Marine turtle strandings reported from NEW JERSEY, 1 January - 30 June 1988 by species and month of occurrence.

<u>EPECIES</u>	MONTH								
	<u>Jan</u>	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	TOTAL		
C. caretta	0	0	0	0	0	o	. '0		
C. Evdas	0	0	0	0	0	Ö	Õ		
D. coriacea	. 0	0	0	0	2	ī	3		
B. imbricata	0	0	0	0	0	Ō	Ŏ		
L. kempi	0	0	0	0	0	Ŏ	Ŏ		
Unidentified	0	0	0	Ŏ	Ō	Ö	ō		
TOTAL	0	0	0	0	2	1	3		

Tele 14(b). Marine turtle strandings reported from NEW JERSEY, 1 January - 30 June 1988 by county and month of occurrence. All species are combined. Only counties from which strandings were reported are included.

COUNTY	MONTH								
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	TOTAL		
Cape May	0	0	0	0	1	0	1		
Ocean	0	0	0	0	1	1	2		
TOTAL	0	0	0	0	2	1	3		

Table 15(a). Marine turtle strandings reported from NEW YORK, 1 January - 30 June 1988 by species and month of occurrence.

SPECIES	MONTH							
	Jan	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	TOTAL	
C. caretta	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	
C. Eydas	0	0	0	0.	0	0	0	
D. coriacea	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
E. imbricata	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
L. kempi	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	
Unidentified	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
TOTAL	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	

Table 15(b). Marine turtle strandings reported from NEW YORK, 1 January - 30 June 1988 by county and month of occurrence. All species are combined. Only counties from which strandings were reported are included.

COUNTY	MONTH								
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	אטנ	TOTAL		
Suffolk	3	0	0	0	0	0	3		
TOTAL	3	0	0	0	0	0	3		

Table 16(a). Marine turtle strandings reported from MASSACHUSETTS, 1 January - 30 June 1988 by species and month foccurrence.

SPECIES	MONTH							
	<u>jan</u>	<u>Feb</u>	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	TOTAL	
C. caretta	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	
C. mydas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
D. coriacea	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	
E. imbricata	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
L. kempi	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Unidentified	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
TOTAL	2	0	0	0	0	2	4	

Table 16(b). Marine turtle strandings reported from MASSACHUSETTS, 1 January - 30 June 1988 by county and month of occurrence. All species are combined. Only counties from which strandings were reported are included.

COUNTY	MONTH							
	<u>Jan</u>	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	TOTAL	
Barnstable Dukes	1	0 0	0 0	0	0 0	2 0	3 1	
TOTAL	2	0	0	0	0	2	4	

Table 17(a). Marine turtle strandings reported from the U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS, 1 January - 30 June 1988 by species and month of occurrence.

<u>BPECIES</u>	MONTH							
	Jan	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	TOTAL	
· ; :								
C. caretta	D	0	0	0	0	0	0	
C. mydas	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	
D. coriacea	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	
E. imbricata	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	
L. kempi	0	0	0	0	0	0	D	
Unidentified	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
TOTAL	0	0	2	1	0	0	3	

Table 18. Strandings of headstarted turtles reported through the STSSN, 1 January - 30 June 1988.

Species: Chelonia mydas

	<u>JAN</u>	<u>FEB</u>	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	TOTAL
Florida (Gulf) Florida (Atl)	0	0	0 0	0	1	0	1 1
TOTAL	0	0	0	0	2	0	2

Species: Lepidochelys kempi

	<u>JAN</u>	FEB	MAR	<u>APR</u>	MAY	<u>jun</u>	TOTAL
Texas	1	1	0	2	2	5	11
Louisiana Florida (Gulf)	0	0	0 1	0	0	0	2 1
TOTAL	1	1	1	2	2	7	14